THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) RSEB, Ramgarh is entitled to a reduction in the gas price on account of its composition and has also been allowed a discount of 15% for utilising gas from a developing field.

Poverty alleviation schemes in the Ninth Five Year Plan

2790. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of poverty alleviation schemes/programmes envisaged in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) what is the State-wise break-up of funds allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the names of the areas in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be covered under the above Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Ninth Five Year Plan is in the process of formulation. The on-going poverty alleviation programmes for self-employment and wage-employment being implemented in the rural and urban areas of the country including the State of Madhya Pradesh would continue in the Ninth Five Year Plan. They would, however, be rationalised and re-designed in order to make them more effective instruments of poverty alleviation. In addition, priority will be given to the identified seven Basic Minimum Services (BMS) with Additional Central Assistance (ACA) earmarked for these services to achieve the objective of their universal coverage in a time bound manner. The allocation of funds to the States/UTs under different poverty alleviation schemes/programmes in the Ninth Plan will be available once the Ninth Plan is finalised.

Assessment of poverty

2791. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: SHRI NAGMANI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several studies have been conducted to assess the magnitude of poverty during the course of economic reforms and also about the impact thereof but no final assessment has been made in this regard;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what efforts have been made for propoer assessment of the poverty line;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government machinery has failed to make assessment of poverty in the light of Eighth Five Year Plan and the impact of economic reforms;

(e) whether optimum benefits could not be derived from the expenditure incurred for this purpose; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The studies on poverty are generally made from the National Sample Survey (NSS) Data on Consumer Expenditure. The Planning Commission uses quinquennial NSS data on Consumer Expenditure to estimate the incidence of poverty. The incidence of poverty for the two latest periods following the recently adopted official methodology, which is based on the

report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor, are estimated as 38.86 per cent in 1987-88 and 35.97 per cent in 1993-94.

(c) The poverty line is defined in terms of monthly per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. These rural and urban poverty lines of 1973-74 are dis-aggregated into state specific poverty lines using the inter-state prices differential of the year. These state specific rural poverty lines are updated by the Consumer Price Index of Agricultural Labourers and urban poverty lines by Consumer Price Index of Industrial Workers.

(d) The Planning Commission estimates the incidence of poverty using the quinquennial National Sample Survey Data on Consumer Expenditure. The Eighth Five Year Plan covers the period 1992—97. Based on the latest available data, the incidence of poverty in 1993-94 is estimated as 35.97 per cent following the recently adopted official methodology which is based on the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of proportion and Number of Poor.

(e) and (f) Statement-I gives the yearly allocation and expenditure under IRDP, JRM and EAS during Eighth Five Year Plan *(See below)*.

The yearwise targets and achievements of families assisted under IRDP, mandays of employment provided under JRY and EAS for each year of the Eighth Five Year Plan is given in Statement — II below.

Statement — I

Financial Performance under Major Poverty Alleviation Programmes during Eighty Plan (i.e. 1992-93 to 1996-97)

(Rs. Crores)

Sl No.		1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96(Prov)		1996-97(Prov)	
		Total Allocation	Expenditure	Total Allocation	Expenditure	Total Allocation	Expenditure	Total Allocation	Expenditure	Total Allocation	Expenditure (upto Dec. 96)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	I.R.D.P.	642.22	693.08	1093.43	956.65	1098.22	1008.07	1097.21	1077.16	1097.21	590.01
2.	J.R.Y.										
	Ist Stream	3169.05	2709.59	3181.22	3590.21	3498.72	3359.88	4348.7	3966.08	2236.79	1221.08
	IInd Stream	—	—	878.2	288.5	878.2	908.45	500	500.82		
3.	EAS	—	—	548.77	183.75	1410.25	1235.45	2131.64	1720.61	1131.32 (Upto Dec. 96)	998

AS: Funds Released; as no Statewise allocations are made under EAS. Total Release (Central + State Matching Share)

Statement-II

Physical Performance under Major Poverty Alleviation Programmes during 8th Plan i.e. 1992-93 to 1996-97

Sl. No.	Programmes	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95		1995-96(Prov)		1996-97(Prov)	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement (upto Dec 96)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	I.R.D.P. (lakh families)	18.75	20.69	25.7	25.38	21.15	21.82	—	20.9	—	9.9
2.	J.R.Y. (lakh mandays)										
	Ist Stream	7537.95	7821.02	10383.26	9523.45	7997.37	7453.59	8042.8	7955.89	4288.58	2274.68
	IInd Stream	—	—	—	734.95	1868.08	2063.48	437.25	1002.36		
3.	EAS (lakh mandays)	—	—	—	494.74	—	2739.56	—	3465.27	—	1892.02

Implementation of MPLAD Scheme

2792. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that implementation on MPLAD scheme is tardy and Members of Parliament are facing many difficulties at the district level;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no proper or effective monitoring of the projects launched under this scheme at the District Collector level; and

(c) what is Government's response to the proposal for interaction with Members of Parliament on the subject and forming a Committee of MPs to reassess the whole matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Some Members of Parliament have complained about slow pace of implementation of the works under MPLADS.

(b) and (c) The State Governments have been requested to issue general instructions with regard to the periodic meetings to be held by the District level officers with the Members of Parliament and to evolve an effective mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the scheme at the State level. Revised guidelines on MPLADS were issued only last month after discussions in meetings under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Speaker and in consultation with the Chairman, Rajya Sabha. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to have a reassessment.

Pending schemes received from Bihar

2793. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes received from Bihar pending with the Government and

(b) the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND